

In the Claims:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for introducing an additive material into a first liquid, the apparatus comprising:

a first container for holding the first liquid having an opening closed by a releasable closure,

a second container positioned in the first container and containing propellant fluid at a pressure greater than atmospheric pressure, and

a tubular conduit having a first end communicating with the second container and a second end communicating with the first container;

wherein the conduit contains an additive material adapted to be expelled from the conduit into the first liquid by the entry of the propellant fluid into the conduit on release of the releasable closure; and

wherein the conduit is provided with a first valve adjacent to its second end, the first valve being adapted to prevent the passage of said additive material into said first liquid when the pressure in said conduit is equal to the pressure in said first liquid, and the first valve being adapted to permit the passage of said additive material into said first liquid when the pressure in said conduit is greater than the pressure in said first liquid; and

wherein the second container has a bleed hole in communication with the first container adapted to permit the pressure in the second container and the first container to reach equilibrium over a period of time.

2. (original) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid is a gel or gel-like material.

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the first container is a can and the releasable closure is a ring pull closure.

6. (original) An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the can has a cylindrical wall and two end walls, the second container being attached to the inner surface of one of the end walls.

7. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a second valve is provided in the conduit adjacent to the first end of the conduit, the second valve being adapted to prevent the passage of said additive material into said second container, and the second valve being adapted to permit the passage of said propellant fluid into said conduit when the pressure in said conduit is less than the pressure in said second container.

8. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the conduit comprises a hollow tubular member of resilient plastics material, the first valve comprising a flattened end portion of the hollow tubular member, the flattened end portion comprising two opposing walls held in contact with each other by the resilience of the plastics material and adapted to move out of contact with each other when the hollow tubular member is subject to internal pressure to allow the passage of said additive material therethrough.

9. (original) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the flattened end portion is formed by applying heat to the tubular member.

10. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the two opposing walls are substantially planar.

11. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the two opposing walls are arcuate in transverse section, the outer surface of a first one of the opposing walls being in contact with the inner surface of the second one of the opposing walls.

12. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the flattened end portion comprises one or more transverse folds.

13. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the flattened end portion is curved, bent or rolled about a transverse axis.

14. (currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the first valve comprises a plug means adapted to be ejected from the conduit when the pressure in said conduit is greater than the pressure in said first liquid.

15. (currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 7 wherein the second valve comprises a plug means adapted to be propelled along the conduit when the pressure in said conduit is greater than the pressure in said first liquid, thereby causing the additive material to be ejected from the conduit.

16. (previously amended) An apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the first valve comprises a poppet valve.